

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region**

**Executive Officer's Report  
Dennis A. Dickerson, Executive Officer**

**December 7, 2000**

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**GROUNDWATER DIVISION**

**ENFORCEMENT AND STORMWATER**

**Enforcement**

**General Waste Discharge Requirements For Small Commercial And Multifamily Residential Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems**

On December 5, 2000, the Regional Board Executive Officer issued tentative General Waste Discharge requirements for small commercial and multifamily residential subsurface sewage disposal systems in accordance with the California Water Code (CWC) Sections 13260(a) (1) and 13263(i). The General WDRs apply to small commercial and multifamily sewage disposal systems with a maximum average daily flow of 20,000 gallons and addresses both coastal areas and areas where groundwater may be shallow.

**So Cal Metals**

Morton Price

On December 1, 2000 the Executive Officer issued an Administrative Civil Liability to So Cal Metals (Discharger) in the amount of \$43,540 for violating waste discharge requirements contained in State Board Order No. 97-03-DWQ by failing to submit Annual Reports and by allowing conditions to exist at its facility that have the potential for discharging pollutants into the storm drain system.

**Complaint 00-122 for Administrative Civil Liability**

Sam Unger

On October 27, Regional Board staff and the Executive Officer met with representatives from the City of San Buenaventura regarding Complaint 00-122 for Administrative Civil Liability issued against the City for alleged discharges from the Ventura Water Renovation Facility and its collection system. The City representatives also provided data showing that violations alleged in the Complaint were due to upgrades to the treatment plant that the City initiated in 1997. Regional

Board staff is currently reviewing the City correspondence and will make recommendations, as appropriate, to the next Regional Board Hearing Panel.

### **US Environmental Protection Agency Administrative Enforcement Training**

Enforcement Staff

On November 1 and 2, 2000, Regional Board staff attended US Environmental Protection Agency administrative enforcement training. Topics that were discussed included the federal penalty policies, recovery of economic benefit, guidance on financial hardship, negotiating settlements, and drafting effective civil complaints.

### **City of Los Angeles /EPA Audit Report/Meetings**

Sam Unger

Regional Board staff attended a meeting with the City of Los Angeles and US Environmental Protection Agency on October 23, 2000 to discuss the EPA audit report on the City of Los Angeles sewer collection system. The major issues in the report concern grease and root control, collection system operation, maintenance and rehabilitation, control of infiltration, planning and modeling, and contract agencies. The City presented information on its recent initiatives to control grease from the sewer system, as well as provided information regarding other recommendations in the audit report. The City provided a letter to the EPA documenting their comments on the audit report. In response to the information provided by the City, the EPA made minor revisions and reissued the report on November 3, 2000.

Regional Board staff also met with US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Justice, the Attorney General, and representatives from Baykeeper on November 2, 2000 to discuss the EPA audit of the City of Los Angeles sewer collection system and options for assisting the City to reduce the frequency of sanitary sewer overflows from its collection system. These options will be further discussed in upcoming meetings and then presented to the Board for consideration.

### **Storm Water Program**

#### **EPA Audit**

Wendy Phillips

On November 1, 2000, State and Regional Board staff briefed the US EPA Office of the Inspector General on our efforts to regulate storm water. Attendees at this meeting included about a dozen staff in the Inspector General's office. The US EPA is completing an audit of the Storm Water Program at the Los Angeles Regional Board, covering the period July 1, 1999 to April 30, 2000. Results of the audit should be available early next year.

#### **Notice of Termination (NOT)**

Ejigu Solomon

As of November 15, 2000, the NOT backlog for both industrial and construction sites has been reduced to about 62. This represents a reduction of 57% from the backlog number of 109 reported for the prior period ending October 24, 2000.

#### **Seminar on Construction Storm Water Permit Compliance**

Ejigu Solomon

On December 4, 2000, a seminar on Construction Storm Water Permit was held at the Ventura County Government Center in Ventura. Storm Water Program staff in cooperation with the Ventura Countywide Storm Water Quality Management Program and the Building Industry Association co-hosted the seminar to educate and inform contractors, developers, engineers, landscape architects and other building industry professionals in Ventura County. At the seminar staff discussed the

requirements of the statewide General Construction Storm Water Permit and explained the Regional Board's progressive enforcement policy. For more information, please contact Regional Board staff Ejigu Solomon (213-576-6727), or Elyse Gorden with the Ventura County Storm water Facility Management Program (805-654-2010).

#### **1997-1998 and 1999-2000 Sampling Reports**

Yi Lu

Staff from the Storm Water Section and other units reviewed sampling reports to compile water quality monitoring data, going back as far as 1997, for industrial facilities in the 110/710/Alameda Corridors. These data will be used to screen and identify the 200 highest risk facilities, which will be targeted for compliance inspections.

#### **Industrial Storm Water Program Non-Filers Follow-up**

Ivar Ridgeway

The City of Los Angeles recently completed a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) under the Regional Board direction and supervision. The SEP identified a total of 204 facilities that may be potential non-filers in a four square mile area within the 110/710/Alameda Corridor area. In October 2000, staff mailed out the first batch of Notices of Non-Compliance (NNC) to 25 of these potential non-filers, requesting them to submit an Notice Of Intent (NOI) or a Notice Of Non-Applicability (NNA) to the Regional Board by November 25, 2000. Mail of NNCs to the remaining facilities on the list is scheduled in batches over the next 6 months.

## **REMEDIATION**

#### **Update of Defense Fuel Support Point Norwalk Site Activities**

Ana Townsend

At the quarterly Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) Norwalk Tank Farm Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting held on October 26, 2000, elected official representatives were in attendance. The attendees at the community meeting included the Mayor of Norwalk, Cheri Kelley, a representative from Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano's office, various military representatives, community members, and various other interested parties. The purpose of the RAB is to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review and comment on proposed environmental restoration actions to accelerate the cleanup at the Tank Farm. The Tank Farm is used by the military as a fuel storage and transfer facility. Kinder Morgan operates a pump station on a two-acre easement along the facility's southern border. DESC and Kinder Morgan are both operating treatment systems to remediate chemicals in the soil and groundwater from past fuel releases. The primary chemicals of concern are petroleum hydrocarbons (fuel products), 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA), benzene and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE).

Interest on the ongoing cleanup activities at the Norwalk Tank Farm continues to grow as the closure date of the Tank Farm nears. The military is scheduled to cease operations at the Norwalk Tank Farm by December 2000. City officials and representatives from Congresswoman Napolitano's office will continue to work with military officials in Washington DC, to pursue an accelerated schedule for tank farm demolition and a soil cleanup process once the Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) ceases operations at this site.

#### **WELL INVESTIGATION PROGRAM**

Regional Board staff, in cooperation with USEPA, is beginning an in-depth source identification investigation into the chromium 6 problem in San Fernando Valley. On November 8, 2000, Regional

Board staff mailed-out 142 letters to businesses previously investigated under Superfund, soliciting additional information on their chromium usage and disposal practices. Follow-up inspections are planned along with soil and possibly groundwater assessments. Another mail-out of 103 letters is planned for the upcoming week to complete the process. Regional Board staff will also be finalizing cooperative agreements with other agencies to obtain additional chromium 6 information outside Superfund areas. Staff plan to start field inspections in December.

On Monday November 13, 2000, the Regional Board held a public meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Glendale to receive testimony from academia, elected officials, regulatory agencies, affected businesses and the general public on the chromium 6 groundwater problem in San Fernando Valley.

## **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM**

### **Charnock Sub-basin MTBE Investigation Area**

Dr. Weixing Tong

At present there are 26 active sites in the Charnock Sub-Basin. Of the 26 active sites, site assessment has been completed at 15 sites, whereas there are 11 sites where additional site assessment work is required. Groundwater monitoring is being performed at all the sites. A total of six sites have approved remediation workplans for the cleanup of the soil and groundwater.

On March 10, 2000, the Agencies issued draft scope of work to perform Initial Regional Response Activities scope of work (SOW) for regional investigation and propose remediation alternatives. The draft SOW was issued to Shell/Shell Products/Equilon (together as "Shell") and other PRPs. Shell has submitted a good faith offer that met some of the requirements of the Initial Regional Response Activities Scope of Work. The offer from the other PRPs had contingencies that the Agencies could not agree to.

The Regional Board and Shell have signed the Stipulated Agreement along with a specified Scope of Work to perform regional investigation and analysis of alternatives for both Interim Water Replacement and Interim Regional Response Actions. This item was approved by the Board members at August 31, 2000 Board meeting. As part of this investigation, a number of groundwater monitoring wells will be installed in the Upper Silverado Aquifer to determine the plume source and characteristics and perform periodic groundwater monitoring. This work will require development of a basin-wide flow model, develop a GIS database, evaluate alternate drinking water sources within the Charnock Sub-Basin, evaluate methods of treating polluted groundwater and restoring the Charnock Sub-Basin Investigation Area to its full beneficial use, and provide a community relations plan. The work specified in the SOW is a necessary step to restore the drinking water supply at the Charnock Wellfields. The Agencies have received the following submittal of Charnock Initial Regional Response Activities (CIRRA) during month of October 2000:

Task 4 – Information Summary Report, dated on October 1, 2000,

Task 5 – Treatment Technology Performance Report, dated on October 1, 2000,

Task 2 – Monthly Progress Report (September 2000), dated on October 15, 2000,

Task 7 – Ground Water Monitoring Table – Third Quarter 2000, dated on October 15, 2000,

Task 13 - Recommendations for Additional Hydrogeologic Investigations in the Sepulveda-Venice Subregion, dated on October 17, 2000.

On September 7, 2000, the Agencies approved Shell's workplan for installation of additional regional groundwater monitoring wells, and Shell started the fieldwork on September 18, 2000. The fieldwork is ongoing. The Agencies have also directed Shell site (PRP No. 11) to restart the soil vapor extraction system and increase the pumping rate of groundwater treatment system to 140 gallons per minute (gpm). Shell has met these requirements on time. Shell also submitted a work plan to evaluate full utilization of groundwater treatment plant capacity (up to 300 gpm).

On October 6, 2000, soil excavation remediation was started at PRP Site No. 23 (former Chevron/Thrifty No. 247) along with tank removal and site demolition activities.

On October 31, 2000, the Agencies approved the remediation design for dual phase extraction system at PRP site No. 10 (Chevron Service Station No. 9-0561).

Conoco has completed the Tier 1 site assessment and submitted a technical report. The Agencies have completed the preliminary review of the Tier 1 report and has directed Conoco to provide supplemental information. Conoco has been allowed to cease the step-out soil boring investigation program and submit a technical report, summarizing all results from the step-out soil boring investigations completed to date.

### **Arcadia Wellfield MTBE Investigation**

Jay Huang

The shallow aquifer and lower aquifer in the vicinity of the former Mobil Station 18-LDM have been treated with a pump and treat system since October 1997. Currently approximately 28.2 gallons per minute (GPM) of groundwater are being pumped from 17 groundwater extraction wells of the shallow and lower aquifers and treated at the Mobil facility. To date (October 30, 2000) these treatment system has pumped 16.2 million gallons of groundwater and removed an estimated amount of 73.8 pounds of TPH and 203 pounds of MTBE. The average MTBE concentration in the shallow aquifer influent has been decreased from over 2,000 m g/L in 1998 to 130 m g/L in October 2000. The average MTBE concentration in the lower aquifer influent has increased from 293 m g/L in April 2000 to 613 m g/L in October 2000. The impacted soil in the vadose zone has been treated with a vapor extraction system (VES). The cumulative VOC mass removed is 10,572 pounds since May 1999.

A Production Aquifer Remediation System (PARS) using activated carbon filtering to clean up the production aquifer has been in operation since May 17, 2000. PARS is composed of four carbon vessels each containing 24,000 pounds of Calgon's F600 carbon. Currently groundwater from Arcadia Well No.5 are being pumped at 300 GPM and discharged to a storm drain. To date (October 2000), the PARS has pumped approximately 71.4 million gallons of groundwater and removed 0.41 pounds of MTBE. The average daily influent concentration of MTBE was to 0.2 m g/L (October 2000). The PARS is currently undergoing a spiking demonstration test designed to further evaluate system reliability and effectiveness. After the PARS has been tested and approved for operation by the DHS, the treated water from Arcadia Well No. 5 will be routed to Santa Monica treatment plant for distribution to the public.

### **Tosco Wilmington Refinery Spill**

On October 27, 2000, Regional Board staff responded to a spill of co-mingled oily process water and stormwater from the Tosco Wilmington Refinery. The spill was caused by heavy rainwater, which overtaxed the stormwater collection system at the facility. The spill entered into the wetlands of the Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, and ultimately into the West Basin of the Port of Los Angeles.

### **Completion of Corrective Action at Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tank Sites**

Regional Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and/or groundwater

contamination problems from leaking UST's for the time of October 20, 2000, through November 10, 2000 and determined that no further corrective actions are required:

Willamette Industries Incorporated, Cerritos (I-05193)  
Temple City Unified School District, Temple City (I-09685)  
Los Angeles Fire Department Camp No. 13, Malibu (R-05117)

**Clean-up and Abatement Order NO. 2000-40, issued to Tesoro Petroleum Companies, Inc. to investigate and remediate fuel hydrocarbon contamination at the Former Fast Fuel Station**

Magdy Baiady

The Regional Board has determined that the presence of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) and other gasoline constituents discharged from the Former Fast Fuel Service Station located 11051 Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood, creates or threatens to create a condition of pollution or nuisance pursuant to Section 13304 of the California Water Code. On October 24, 2000, the Regional Board issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 2000-40, directing Tesoro Petroleum Companies, Inc., to define the extent of the soil and groundwater contamination both onsite and offsite, and to remediate the contamination to the extent that it no longer poses a threat to human health or water quality.

**LOS ANGELES RIVER UNIT**

Previously, staff reported to the Board that based on the State Department of Health Services' MTBE information in Drinking Water Systems which identified four drinking water wellfields (N. Hollywood Well, Tujunga Well, Verdugo Well, and Burbank Operable Unit) in San Fernando Valley Groundwater Basin, and staff in Underground Storage Tank section sent out initial questionnaire to potential responsible parties in December 1999 and January 2000 to collect information on their sites.

Since then, the State Department of Health Services delisted some of the wellfields from the Drinking Water Systems information except Verdugo Well No.2. However, staff still actively investigates any leaking underground storage tank sites in these wellfield areas and directs those leaking sites to take appropriate corrective actions as necessary. Recently, a Cleanup and Abatement Order (Order No. 00-40) was issued to Tesoro Petroleum Company to fully assess groundwater contamination both onsite and offsite and to cleanup and abate the gasoline contamination at its former Fast Fuel Station in North Hollywood.

For those sites in wellfields which were once or so detected low levels of MTBE but not detected since, staff are preparing to recommend the Board to inform those sites that the further investigation of the sites will be put into abeyance at this time.

**SURFACE WATER DIVISION**

**WATERSHED REGULATORY**

**Oil Spill at ARCO Refinery**

On November 2, 2000 ARCO reported an oil spill at its Los Angeles refinery. The oil spill occurred at 2:30 a.m. in the pipe bridge area near outfall 002. ARCO discovered the oil spill at 5:30 a.m. and

contained oil as much as they can. The source of the spill was from a leaking underground gasoline pipeline. The oil flowed into Dominguez Channel and reached to 200 meters upstream of Sepulveda Boulevard. Staff responded to the oil spill incident and verified that there was no wastewater discharge into Dominguez Channel at the time of inspection.

**Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) Update – NPDES No. CA0064351, Order No. 99-143, CI-8084**

Thizar Tintut-Williams

In accordance with Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. 00-127, ACTA diverted the groundwater dewatering out of Dominguez Channel to the Los Angeles County Sanitation District on September 29, 2000. During the rain events in October, ACTA discharged 8,410,000 gallons of groundwater from the Mid Corridor Trench to the Dominguez Channel via storm drain as a result of wet weather events greater than 0.1-inches as stated in the CDO. On November 8, 2000, ACTA requested an extension of the deadlines for the completion and reporting of Current Tracer Study and Chelate Stability Study. November 17, 2000, ACTA submitted an addendum to the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan to include terms and changes from the CDO. On November 21, 2000, Regional Board staff met to discuss the progress and completion of the ACTA Laboratory Biological Studies Report, Chelex Validation Study Results, and Offset Projects.

## **REGIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Basin Plan Amendments**

#### **Calleguas Watershed - Chloride TMDL**

Elizabeth Erickson

The draft Basin Plan Amendment for a chloride TMDL is being prepared for discussion at a public workshop this fall. For further information or to be placed on the mailing list, please call Melinda Becker at (213) 576-6681 or Elizabeth Erickson at (213) 576-6683.

#### **Santa Clara River – Chloride Basin Plan Amendment**

Elizabeth Erickson

Staff has recommended increasing the chloride objectives for two areas within the Santa Clara River. In the Santa Paula reach the objective would be raised from 80 mg/L to 100 mg/L, and in the Santa Clarita reaches from 100 mg/L to 143 mg/L. The increase in the chloride objective is considered to be fully supportive of the existing beneficial uses, including agricultural water supply. The crops that are most sensitive to chloride concentrations are avocados and strawberries. This item was continued from the April 13, 2000 Regional Board meeting. An addendum staff report issued on July 26, 2000, provided a detailed analysis of potential costs associated with the proposed amendment. A summary of recent activities related to this item is provided as follows.

**Technical Working Group Meeting** - A technical working group meeting was held on October 16, 2000, at the Regional Board offices to discuss the contents of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment.

**Addendum Staff Report** - An addendum staff report was e-mailed to interested parties on November 6, 2000; and hardcopies were mailed on November 7, 2000. This report is an addendum to earlier staff reports issued on February 25, 2000 and July 26, 2000. The report includes staff's recommendation to increase the chloride objective. New information since the July 26<sup>th</sup> staff report includes a finding that a Restricted Agricultural Water Supply Beneficial Use designation will not be required. This finding is based on new information supplied by Newhall Land and Farming which

indicates that avocados never were grown in the Santa Clarita reaches because of cooler temperatures. Therefore, avocado cultivation does not represent an "existing beneficial" use in that reach. Based on this new information, the concern for avocado production is now limited to reaches downstream from the Blue Cut Gauging Station. The staff report also provides an updated analysis of costs, includes a description of new developments, documents public outreach efforts, and includes a response to public comments received since the July 26<sup>th</sup> staff report.

**Public Forum** - Two public forums were conducted to discuss the proposed Basin Plan Amendment on November 16, 2000, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the City of Santa Clarita's Council Chambers. The purposes of the public forums were to inform residents of staff's most recent findings and to receive public comments.

This item is scheduled to be heard by the Regional Board on December 7, 2000, at the Metropolitan Water District Board Room at 700 North Alameda in Los Angeles.

For copies of the proposed resolution and Basin Plan amendment, or to be placed on the mailing list, call Sandra Kelley at (213) 576 6619.

### **Proposed Resolution to Extend the Interim Chloride Policy in Calleguas Creek and the Santa Clara River**

A Draft Resolution to extend the interim chloride limits, as provided for in the Chloride Policy (Regional Board Resolution No. 97-02), was released for public comment of November 7, 2000. The proposed resolution would extend the interim chloride discharge limits of 190 mg/L in Calleguas Creek and the Santa Clara River for a period of one year. The interim limit is set to expire on January 29, 2001. The extension will provide time for the completion of the Chloride TMDL in Calleguas Creek and the proposed Basin Plan Amendment to increase the chloride objective in the Santa Clara River.

This item is scheduled to be heard by the Regional Board on December 7, 2000, at the Metropolitan Water District Board Room at 700 North Alameda in Los Angeles.

For further information or to be placed on the mailing list, please call Melinda Becker at (213) 576-6681 or Elizabeth Erickson at (213) 576-6683.

### **Staff Attend Western States TMDL Practitioner's Conference**

Several Regional Board staff members attended U.S. EPA's Western States Practitioner's Conference in San Diego, California during the week of November 13. Representatives from several western states shared their experiences in developing TMDLs. Presentations were grouped into sediment, temperature, nutrient, and pathogen TMDLs and on modeling approaches. EPA staffer, Terry Flemming, made a presentation on the nutrient and pathogen TMDL for the Los Angeles River. Several people attended a follow-up breakout session to discuss the unique challenges posed by urban streams.

### **Nonpoint Source Program**

Raymond Jay

### **Nonpoint Source Workshop**

The Nonpoint Source (NPS) Unit held its First Semi-Annual Nonpoint Workshop December 5, 2000, at the Regional Board office. The purpose of this workshop was to gather NPS stakeholders, the interested public, and regulatory agencies to discuss the NPS Program and its related issues. The Regional Board presented information regarding NPS pollution, the State Plan, grants and funding, the NPS program and its authority, and how we should all work cooperatively in order to improve our water quality. The second half of the workshop focused on the newly released Proposition 13

(2000 Water Bond) Request for Proposals (RFPs). Additional questions can be directed to Raymond Jay at (213) 576-6689.

**Proposition 13**

In March 2000, California voters approved Prop. 13, which authorizes the State of California to sell \$1.97 billion in general obligation bonds to support safe drinking water, water quality, flood protection, and water reliability projects throughout the state. RFPs will be distributed during the NPS Workshop, and information regarding the proposal and contract process will be discussed. The deadline for submitting RFPs is February 1, 2001. Detailed information can be found on the SWRCB's Proposition 13 web page at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/prop13/index.html>.

**Section 401 Water Quality Certification Program**

The following Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) actions have been issued since the preparation of the last Executive Officers Report:

<b>DATE OF ISSUANCE</b>	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
October 24, 2000	Southern California Edison	Fall Creek Access Road Repair Project	Conditional WQC
October 25, 2000	City of Simi Valley	Dry Canyon Detention Basin	Conditional WQC
November 1, 2000	Pomona College and Padova Padua Hills	Modified Padova Padua Hills Project	Conditional WQC
November 1, 2000	Robert Brown and James Cote	Coyote Creek Stabilization Structure	Conditional WQC
November 1, 2000	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	Wilbur Creek Channel Invert Access Ramp Project	Standard WQC
November 6, 2000	Larwin Company	Vesting Tentative Tract No. 52790	Conditional WQC
November 6, 2000	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	Walnut Creek Invert Repair Project	Standard WQC
November 14, 2000	City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Sepulveda Basin Water Recycling Project	Conditional WQC
November 14, 2000	County of Ventura Transportation Department	Moorpark Road Realignment Project	Conditional WQC
November 14, 2000	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	Magic Mountain Parkway	Conditional WQC

November 14, 2000	SunCal Companies	Dayton Canyon Estates	Conditional WQC
November 29, 2000	Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority	Long Beach Lead Bridge	Conditional WQC

Certification actions recently issued and project descriptions for applications currently being reviewed can be viewed from our Web Site located at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/401wqc.html>. For additional information regarding our Section 401 Program, please contact Anthony Klecha at (213) 576-6785.

Any petitions for the appeal of a Section 401 WQC action must be filed within 30 days of the date of its issuance. We encourage public input during the certification process.

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

### **Storm Water Presentation to the San Gabriel Basin Group**

Yi Lu

On November 21, 2000, staff presented recent developments in Regional Board's storm water program to the San Gabriel Basin Group at the Aerojet facility in Irwindale. Approximately 50 industrial representatives of permitted facilities in the area showed up.

### **Presentation to a Delegate from China**

Yi Lu

On November 9, 2000, staff gave a brief introduction of our Storm Water Program and Well Investigation Program to a delegate from the People's Republic of China. The U.S. State Department sponsored the Chinese delegate's visit to promote the understanding of environmental regulations and technologies in the U.S.

### **Southern California Regional Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Task Force (CAFO)**

Augustine Anijielo

On November 7, 2000, Regional Board staff attended the inaugural meeting for the Southern California Regional CAFO Task Force in Riverside. Julie Wukouits and O.Z. Robertson both of USEPA-Criminal Investigation Division, San Diego, chaired the task force meeting. The task force is patterned after a similar Northern California CAFO task force that proved very successful in ensuring consistency of enforcement at CAFO facilities. This CAFO task force will serve as region-wide and cross-county mechanisms for bringing about consistency in regulation among different agencies/jurisdictions and for sharing information regarding violations with specific CAFOs (e.g., dairies, feedlots, horse racetracks, egg ranches, horse stables, hog ranches, etc). In our region we have CAFO issues relating to horse racetracks and ranches. Participation in the task force should enhance and facilitate the enforcement capabilities of attending agencies. The task force proceeding will not be limited to criminal enforcement, but will include other types of administrative enforcement related issues. Attendees at the meeting included federal, state, county and city agencies. The meeting was organized as a brainstorming session to obtain input from attendees on what they expect out of the task force. Some attendees questioned the purpose of the task force,

since there are other task forces within the Southern Counties addressing similar issues. The next task force meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2000. Tentative topics to be covered during the training include case histories, sampling, photographing, what to look for during inspections, applicable statutes, and a discussion of problems encountered in Northern California.

#### **Presentation to American Society of Plumbing Engineers**

Xavier Swamikannu

On October 25, 2000, staff presented the Regional Board's new development and redevelopment requirements for urban runoff/ storm water mitigation at the Los Angeles area chapter meeting of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers in Santa Ana. The audience included product manufacturers, consultants, and local government officials.

#### **Presentation at the Waste Management Forum**

Xavier Swamikannu

On November 16, 2000, staff provided the "Regulatory Perspective" on Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans at the Waste Management Forum in the City of Industry. Staff was joined at the session by representatives from the Building Industry of Southern California, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and a local government legal counsel. Attendees to the conference included consultants, waste management professionals, local elected representatives, and members of the public.

#### **Friends of the San Gabriel River—Citizen Monitoring Forum**

Staff made presentations at a forum sponsored by the Friends of the San Gabriel River, on Saturday, November 11, 2000, at the Rio Hondo Golf Course. Staff provided an overview of the state of the San Gabriel River watershed and Ms. Becker described the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program and the Regional Board's response to the consent decree between Heal the Bay, Santa Monica BayKeeper et al. and U.S. EPA.

Other presenters at the forum were Bill Di Poto from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Jim Harrington, California Department of Fish and Game; Mark Abramson, Heal the Bay; Heather Trim, Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council; Joan Greenwood, Friends of the Los Angeles River; Emiko Kobayashi; Surfrider; and Charlie Moore, Agalita Marine. Approximately 90 people were in attendance.

#### **Southern California Waste Management 2000 Conference**

Melinda Becker was a guest speaker at the Southern California Waste Management 2000 Conference, held at the City of Industry Hyatt Regency Conference Center on Thursday, November 16, 2000. The title of her talk was "TMDLs—Where the Rubber Meets the Road." Approximately 150 people attended the presentation.

#### **Stormwater Task Force**

Jonathan Bishop was a guest speaker at the Stormwater Task Force meeting held in Sacramento, California, on Friday, November 17, 2000. Mr. Bishop represented the Regional Board on a panel of TMDL experts. Other panel members included Terry Flemming, representing U.S. EPA and Judith Wilson, representing the City of Los Angeles, Sanitation District.

#### **Blood Drive**

On November 15, 2000, the Regional Board hosted a Red Cross Blood drive which resulted in the collection of 27 pints of blood. This blood, after being separated into four components, was used within 48 hours to help 108 people.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### **Personnel Report**

Dolores Renick

As of November 27 our staff total is 143: 124 technical staff (including 3 part-time staff and 1 on a leave of absence), 5 permanent administrative staff and 14 permanent clerical staff.

Staff is currently taking steps to fill 2 Unit Chief positions, 24 technical staff positions, 1 administrative position and 1 clerical position.

The following appointment has been made:

**Robert A. Sams**, Staff Counsel, appointed 11/27/00.

The following separated from Region 4:

**Stephen Niou**, Water Resource Control Engineer, transferred to Department of Toxic Substances Control effective 10/31/00.

**Alex Puglisi**, Environmental Specialist III, separated from State Service effective 11/04/00.

### **PETITIONS STATUS REPORT**

A table listing the petitions of Regional Board actions pending before the State Board has been included with this report.